

# *Strong Families Build Strong Communities*

## POLICE, PROSECUTORS, ADVOCATES AND COMMUNITY WORKING TOGETHER

As a sign of the City's commitment to reducing domestic violence incidents in Minneapolis and as a sign of the City's commitment to working with our community, the City has adopted a Pledge to Reduce Domestic Violence. This project represents a collaboration between the City of Minneapolis and its community partners; only by working together and in community can we best help families.

Learn more at <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/crime-reporting/domesticabuse.asp#TopOfPage>

### What is domestic violence?

Domestic Violence is physical, emotional and sexually abusive behaviors used by an intimate partner to put you in fear and make you do what he/she wants. This may include some or all of the following behaviors:

- Physical - Being hit, kicked, bit, had a weapon or other object used to threaten you or other family members
- Emotional - Your partner puts you down or calls you names, makes you justify everything that you do, every place you go or every person you see, accuses you of having affairs or looking at someone else, threatens to leave you or has affairs
- Psychological - Any threat to do bodily harm to you, your children, family members, hurts pets to get back at you or destroys your property
- Sexual - Forces you to have sex when you don't want to or do things sexually you don't want to do

### Planning for Safety

• Memorize a crisis intervention number, in Minnesota the number is 1-866-223-1111.

• If you are in danger, call 911.

• Be aware of local domestic violence programs and resources. Check in with them if you are confused or unsure about what is happening in your relationship.

• Be aware of your partner's abusive cues including their demeanor, expressions, threats, actions, etc.

• Be aware of your own cues in reaction to your partner's cues, these can help you know when to seek a safe place to stay

• Talk with advocates and supportive friends and family members about the abuse.

• You do not have to keep this a secret. Ask about your options and what you can do.

### Who Can I Call For More Information?

Asian Women United of Minnesota  
612-724-8823 [www.awum.org](http://www.awum.org)

Casa de Esperanza  
651-772-1611 (24 hour crisis line)  
[www.casadeesperanza.org](http://www.casadeesperanza.org)

Domestic Abuse Project  
612-874-7063 [www.domesticabuseproject.org](http://www.domesticabuseproject.org)

Hennepin Domestic Abuse Service Center  
612-348-5096

Tubman Family Alliance  
612-825-0000 [www.stopfamilyviolence.com](http://www.stopfamilyviolence.com)

Women of Nations  
886-662-7929 (toll free 24 hour crisis line)  
[www.women-of-nations.org](http://www.women-of-nations.org)

MPD Family Violence Unit  
612-673-3072

Minneapolis City Attorney's Office  
Victim Liaisons: 612-673-2467

Minnesota Domestic Abuse Crisis Line  
(statewide)  
1-866-223-1111

### What to expect if you call 911

The Police will respond and ask questions to find out what happened.

- Photos may be taken.
- Other people may be questioned.
- Damaged property or weapons may be taken by the police

The Police will arrest someone if:

- they have evidence that someone was physically assaulted,
- they can figure out who the main person causing the physical assault is,
- that person is available to be arrested.

The Prosecutor's Office, not the victim, then decides whether or not to press criminal charges against someone.

Once criminal charges have been filed, the abuser has a right to fight the charge in court. If the case is handled in court:

- the victim does not have to come to court unless the victim receives a subpoena, which usually only happens if the case is set for trial

-if the victim does come to court, advocates will be available to talk to the victim and support them throughout the entire process.